Sea of Cortez Citizens' Alliance
www.seaofcortezalliance.com
November 7, 2026

General update: what the Alliance has done

October–November 2026 · Public information only, every point linked to its source

Who we are

The Sea of Cortez Citizens' Alliance is a recently formed US nonprofit organization of citizens and families from Mexico, the United States and Canada who live on, work by and sail the Sea of Cortez, the Gulf of California, including fishing families. We work alongside Mexican and international organizations, have no commercial interest in any energy project, and use only public information.

Our goal: keep the Sea of Cortez, "the Aquarium of the World", free of LNG, ammonia and methanol export projects and their tanker traffic, so that its wildlife and the fishing communities that depend on it endure for generations to come.

Our objectives: (1) give authorities, lenders, the press and the public accurate, verified information; (2) take part, lawfully and peacefully, in the regulatory and legal processes in Mexico and the United States; (3) support and connect the communities and organizations already protecting the Gulf, so that they act together; (4) press for transparency on who owns, finances and supplies each project.

Context: why the Sea of Cortez is at risk

The Gulf of California is a UNESCO World Heritage site, home to 39% of the world's marine mammal species and on the List of World Heritage in Danger since 2019. Five export projects running on US natural gas have been planned on its shores: Amigo LNG (Guaymas), Saguaro LNG (Puerto Libertad), the Proman–GPO ammonia plant and Pacífico Mexinol (Topolobampo), and Vista Pacífico LNG, which has stopped. Together they would bring about 1,146 tanker crossings a year* through whale feeding and migration areas, with the risks of ship strikes, underwater noise, toxic ammonia cargo, invasive species in ballast water, dredging and harm to fisheries. In July 2026 UNESCO's World Heritage Committee raised these projects for the first time and asked Mexico to assess them before any decision that would be difficult to reverse. UNESCO 48 COM 7A.44

What we have done

29 Oct 2026	**Motion to intervene and protest** before the US Department of Energy against Amigo LNG's request to extend its export deadline to 2029 (Docket 20-31-LNG). DOE posted it in the official docket. Motion · Spanish translation
5 Nov 2026	**Supplement with new evidence** to DOE: the company's own slide showing 822,000 m³ of storage versus the 290,000 m³ stated by Mexico's Energy Secretary and 400,000 m³ in its US permit; the State of Sonora's position that the land contract has "no legal effect"; and the fishermen's opposition. Received by DOE. Supplement
Oct–Nov 2026	**Who is behind each project**, from public records only: Amigo LNG (at least nine related companies in the US, Singapore and Mexico, none disclosing shareholders), Saguaro LNG / Mexico Pacific (a majority owner held through the trusts of an unnamed US citizen), the Proman–GPO ammonia plant (promoters since 2013, a land purchase of about US$7.7 million against appraisals of about US$62,000, and no known controlling person) and Pacífico Mexinol (owners not disclosed). Read

6–7 Nov 2026	**Organizational charts** of all four projects; a chart of **who controls the gas** (the Presidency, SENER, CFE, CFEnergía, CFE International and Cenagas); the **whole gas value chain**, from Texas gas fields through each pipeline to the plants, the tankers and the buyers; and **who buys and who finances** each project, with every buyer's country. Charts (PDF)
7 Nov 2026	**Pacífico Mexinol on the shore of a Ramsar wetland:** using the company's own coordinates, we showed that the methanol plant would stand on the shore of Ohuira bay, part of the Ramsar site "Lagunas de Santa María–Topolobampo–Ohuira", with its export jetty inside it, and that the public banks' project summaries omit this. Read
7 Nov 2026	**Letters to the public lenders and to the US Congress** on Pacífico Mexinol: to the Boards of Executive Directors of IDB Invest (proposed US$300 million loan) and of the World Bank Group (IFC, co-developer), to the US International Development Finance Corporation (DFC, as a formal public comment) and to the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. We asked them to assess the Ramsar, mangrove and cumulative impacts, apply their Indigenous Peoples standards, disclose the owners, and defer any decision until then.
Nov 2026	**Public materials:** a 36-slide presentation on the four projects (tanker traffic, emissions, Ohuira bay, the ammonia risk, whales and pipelines); a campaign for nitrogen-oxide (NOx) rules in the Gulf; a bilingual website with every source linked; and a global petition. Presentation · Petition
Oct–Nov 2026	**Outreach:** we shared our filings and research with organizations and journalists in Mexico and the United States, and offered our materials freely to anyone working to protect the Gulf.

What we found

- **No gas, no projects.** All the projects depend on US gas that Mexican state companies (CFE, CFEnergía, CFE International and Cenagas) would buy, sell or carry, through pipelines that are full, unbuilt or still only planned. Vista Pacífico LNG stopped when CFE ended its agreement.
- **Hidden owners.** None of the four active projects fully discloses who ultimately owns or controls it.
- **Protected areas.** The ammonia and methanol plants sit on Ohuira bay, part of a Ramsar wetland, inside the Gulf's UNESCO World Heritage setting.
- **Public money.** Pacífico Mexinol is seeking finance from public development banks (IDB Invest, IFC and the US DFC), all of which rate it Category A, the highest risk. The ammonia plant is financed by Germany's state-owned KfW IPEX-Bank with a German government guarantee.
- **Courts and consultation.** Mexican courts have suspended works at Amigo LNG and barred Saguaro's tankers from the Gulf; Indigenous consultation remains contested at Topolobampo.

What comes next

- **1 February 2027:** Mexico's report to UNESCO on these projects is due.
- **31 March 2027:** projected IDB Invest board decision on the US$300 million loan to Pacífico Mexinol.
- **Ongoing:** DOE dockets 20-31-LNG (Amigo LNG) and 18-70-LNG (Saguaro LNG); DFC's review of Pacífico Mexinol; transparency requests to CFE and Cenagas.
- **An invitation:** we propose that organizations working on the Gulf coordinate around one shared goal, no gas, no projects, and a shared calendar of these deadlines. All our research, charts and sources are free to use. Write to us to join a coordination call.

* Alliance estimate calculated from the projects' announced capacities; method and sources at www.seaofcortezalliance.com.

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Keep the Aquarium of the World pristine, for generations to come